

Message Text

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PAGE 01 BAMAKO 03600 251531Z

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ACTION IO-10

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 EA-07 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00

PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 ACDA-05 OMB-01 ARA-06 NEA-10 /104 W

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R 251134Z SEP 75

FM AMEMBASSY BAMAKO

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 2327

INFO USUN NEW YORK 246

AMEMBASSY MOSCOW

USLO PEKING

C O N F I D E N T I A L BAMAKO 3600

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: ML, UR, UNGA, PFOR, CH

SUBJ: MALI'S UNGA STATEMENT - SEPT. 22

REF: USUN 4426 (NOTAL)

1. REFTEL CONTAINED SUMMARY OF SPEECH BY MALI'S

FOREIGN MINISTER CISSOKO TO UNGA ON SEPTEMBER 22.

IT WOULD BE HELPFUL IF DEPT. COULD ADVISE HOW

CLOSELY THIS SPEECH WERE TO SOVIET OR CHINESE LINE.

WHILE MALIAN REFERENCE TO "THE TWO POWER BLOCS EXTENDING

THEIR SPHERES OF INFLUENCE" AND "CONTINUATION OF ARMS

RACE" WOULD NOT PLEASE SOVIETS, THERE IS MUCH IN SPEECH

THAT WOULD. IS THERE, FOR EXAMPLE, ANYTHING ELSE IN

SPEECH THAT WOULD DISCOMFIT SOVIETS?

2. AS DEPT. WELL AWARE, CISSOKO'S SPEECH IS TYPICAL OF

RADICAL STATEMENTS MADE BY MALIAN REPRESENTATIVES

WHILE OUTSIDE OF MALI. SPEECH ITSELF, HOWEVER, WILL

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PROBABLY NOT BE MADE PUBLICLY AVAILABLE WITHIN MALI.

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PAGE 02 BAMAKO 03600 251531Z

(FOR EXAMPLE, THERE HAS NEVER BEEN ANY PUBLICITY GIVEN

TO PUERTO RICAN RESOLUTION EVEN THOUGH RADIO MALI DID ANNOUNCE SEPT 19 THAT SIERRA LEONE HAS ASSUMED CHAIRMANSHIP OF COMMITTEE OF 24.) GOVERNMENT NEWSPAPER L'ESSOR OF SEPTEMBER 24 CARRIED BRIEF, THREE PARAGRAPH ACCOUNT OF CISSOKO'S SPEECH ON FRONT PAGE WHICH SPOKE ONLY OF THE NEED FOR THE JINGOLAN PEOPLE TO RESOLVE THEIR DIFFERENCES PEACEFULLY. FAR MORE PROMINENT COVERAGE OF FRONT PAGE WAS GIVEN SAME DAY TO SECRETARY KISSINGER'S UNGA SPEECH WHICH HAD APPROXIMATELY NINE TIMES MORE SPACE. SECRETARY'S SPEECH WAS REPORTED FACTUALLY, WITH LIBERAL QUOTES, AND IN FAVORABLE LIGHT.

3. SINCE THE MILITARY REGIME HERE HAS ABSOLUTE CONTROL OVER LOCALLY ORIGINATED NEWS, OUR JOB IS DOUBLY DIFFICULT SINCE IF WE SPEAK TO EVEN SENIOR MALIAN GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS ABOUT THE OFFENSIVE NATURE OF A SPEECH LIKE CISSOKO'S, THE OFFICIAL WILL PROBABLY ONLY HAVE SEEN THE PLANE ACCOUNT IN L'ESSOR. (EARLIER THIS MONTH, FOREIGN MINISTRY SECRETARY GENERAL HAD NOT SEEN ACTUAL TEXT OF HIS MINISTER'SIUN SPEECH WHEN AMBASSADOR CALLED ON HIM SIX DAYS LATER.) WE HAVE TO FIRST INFORM THE OFFICIAL WHAT HIS FOREIGN MINISTER SAID, AND THEN MAKE OUR POINTS. DEPARTMENT'S ANALYSIS OF CISSOKO'S SPEECH IN TERMS OF SOVIET OR CHINESE INFLUENCE MIGHT GIVE US ADDITIONAL TALKING POINTS SINCE MALIANS REMAIN SENSITIVE TO CHARGES OF OUTSIDE INFLUENCE. MCGUIRE

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